(b) if so, the details of the sponsored programmes telecast on Doordarshan as compared to its own programme during the last three years, year-wise; and the sponsorship fee fixed for various categories;

(c) whether lower categorisation of sponsored programmes are resulting in loss of revenue to Doordarshan;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the losses suffered on this account during 1995-96; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government to save the Doordarshan from debt?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Air Service in Gujarat

263. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received a number of proposals from people representatives and various other organisations to connect air services in various other organisations to connect air services in various airports of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Requests have been received to provide air links from Kandla and Surat.

(c) Indian Airlines have no plans to introduce services to these airports due to infrastructural constraints, poor load factor and acute shortage of operating crew. NEPC Airlines has, however, started operations from Kandla Airport.

[Translation]

Tourist Spots in Bihar

264. SHRI VIRNEDRA KUMAR SINGH :
SHRI LALIT ORAON :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sent any proposal to the Union Government for the development of tourism for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of proposals out of them approved/ rejected by the Union Government so far; and

(d) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the above State for the development of tourism during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to State/UT Governments for the development of Tourism based on specific proposals received from them, the merits of each proposal and the availability of funds.

For the year 1996-97, the Department has prioritised three projects costing Rs. 69.00 lakhs based on discussions with the State Government officers for providing financial assistance to Bihar. However, no detailed proposal has been received from the State Government so far.

(d) During the last three years, Projects amounting to Rs. 282.25 lakhs have been sanctioned for Bihar. The year-wise details are given below :-

1993-94	-	Rs. 53.61 lakhs
1994-95	-	Rs. 112.12 lakhs
1995-96	-	Rs. 116.52 lakhs

Allocation of funds

265. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether no allocation has been made to the Bihar Backward Classes, by Finance and Development Corporation druing 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH ROMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 1012.805 lakhs to the Bihar Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation in respect of 12 schemes in the year 1994-95. The State Corporation has not submitted any scheme for sanction of loan to NBCFDC during 1995-96 and hence no loan has been sanctined during the year.

Private Sector Participation in Air Traffic Area

266. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a decrease in the participation of private sectors in the air traffic area after the implementation of the policy of open air space;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;